

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 509

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARTER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

STUDENT/LOANS-SCHOLARSHIP: Provides relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(1)(e), to enact R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(6), and to repeal  
3 R.S. 17:3048.1(C)(1)(e), relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students;  
4 to provide relative to academic eligibility standards for students with respect to the  
5 high school core curriculum; to prohibit the administering agency of the Taylor  
6 Opportunity Program for Students from updating course names and establishing  
7 course equivalencies for courses included in the core curriculum; and to provide for  
8 related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(1)(e) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
11 17:3048.1(A)(6) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §3048.1. Program awards; eligibility; amounts; limitations; funding; administration

13 A.(1) As part of the Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students, the  
14 state shall financially assist any student who enrolls on a full-time basis in a public  
15 college or university in this state or a regionally accredited independent college or  
16 university in the state that is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent  
17 Colleges or Universities, hereafter in this Chapter referred to collectively as "eligible  
18 colleges or universities", to pursue an academic undergraduate degree or, as provided  
19 by this Subsection, skill or occupational training as defined by the Board of Regents,  
20 including a vocational or technical education certificate or diploma program or a

1 nonacademic undergraduate degree, and who meets the qualifications of  
2 Subparagraph (b), (c), or (d) of this Paragraph and all of the applicable following  
3 qualifications:

4 \* \* \*

5 (e) Except as otherwise provided by this Section, ~~and through the 2006-2007~~  
6 ~~school year, has successfully completed at least sixteen and one-half units of high~~  
7 ~~school course work, which constitutes a core curriculum, and meets standards for~~  
8 ~~admission to the desired college or university: and has successfully completed a~~  
9 ~~specified minimum number of units of high school course work, which constitutes~~  
10 ~~a core curriculum, as follows: Except as otherwise provided by this Section and~~  
11 ~~beginning with the 2007-2008 school year through the 2012-2013 school year, meets~~  
12 ~~standards for admission to the desired college or university and has successfully~~  
13 ~~completed at least seventeen and one-half units of high school course work as~~  
14 ~~permitted by this Subparagraph, which constitutes a core curriculum. Except as~~  
15 ~~otherwise provided by this Section and beginning with the 2013-2014 school year~~  
16 ~~and thereafter, meets the standards for admissions to the desired college or university~~  
17 ~~and has successfully completed at least nineteen units of high school course work as~~  
18 ~~permitted by this Subparagraph, which constitutes a core curriculum. For students~~  
19 ~~qualifying under Subparagraph (A)(1)(c) of this Section, the core curriculum~~  
20 ~~requirements of this Subparagraph shall become effective beginning with the high~~  
21 ~~school graduating class of the year 1998, except that the core curriculum requirement~~  
22 ~~for a Performance Award shall be waived for any student graduating during the~~  
23 ~~1997-1998 school year who is certified as having graduated within the top five~~  
24 ~~percent of his graduating class at a Louisiana public high school or nonpublic high~~  
25 ~~school which is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary~~  
26 ~~Education.~~

27 (i) Except as otherwise provided by this Section, a student who graduates in  
28 the 2012-2013 school year shall have successfully completed at least seventeen and

1        one-half units of high school course work, and for such a student, the core  
2        curriculum shall be defined as follows:

3                (i) (aa) English I, II, III, and IV (four units).

4                (ii) (bb) Algebra I (one unit) or Applied Algebra 1A and 1B (two units) and  
5        Algebra II (one unit).

6                (iii) (cc) Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, or comparable Advanced  
7        Mathematics (one unit). ~~through the 2012-2013 school year, two units beginning~~  
8        ~~with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter).~~

9                (iv) (dd) Biology (one unit).

10                (v) (ee) Chemistry (one unit).

11                (vi) (ff) Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physical Science, Biology  
12        II, Chemistry II, Physics, Physics II, or Physics for Technology (one unit), or  
13        Agriscience I and II (both for one unit) ~~(one unit through the 2012-2013 school year,~~  
14        ~~two units beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter).~~

15                (vii) (gg) American History (one unit).

16                (viii) (hh) World History, Western Civilization, or World Geography (one  
17        unit). ~~through the 2012-2013 school year); World History, Western Civilization,~~  
18        ~~World Geography, or History of Religion (two units beginning with the 2013-2014~~  
19        ~~school year and thereafter).~~

20                (ix) (ii) Civics and Free Enterprise (one unit combined) or Civics (one unit,  
21        nonpublic).

22                (x) (ji) Fine Arts Survey (one unit; ~~or through the 2012-2013 school year~~  
23        substitute two units of performance courses in music, dance, or theater; or substitute  
24        two units of visual art courses; or substitute two units of studio art courses; or  
25        substitute one unit as an elective from among the other subjects listed in this core  
26        curriculum); ~~beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, Fine Arts~~  
27        ~~Survey (one unit or substitute one unit of a performance course in music, dance, or~~  
28        ~~theater; or substitute one unit of a visual art course; or substitute one unit of a studio~~  
29        ~~art course).~~

(~~xi~~) (kk) Foreign Language (~~one unit for students graduating from high school during the 1996-1997 school year or the 1997-1998 school year; (two units in a single language).~~ for students graduating from high school during the 1998-1999 school year and thereafter).

(~~xii~~) (ll) Computer Science, Computer Literacy, or Business Computer Applications (one-half unit; or substitute at least one-half unit of an elective course related to computers that is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; or substitute at least one-half unit as an elective from among the other subjects listed in this core curriculum). ~~The provisions of this Item shall not be applicable to any student who graduates during the 2013-2014 school year or thereafter.~~

~~(xiii) For students who graduate during the 2007-2008 school year and continuing through the 2012-2013 school year, at~~ (mm) At least one unit as an elective from among the following math subjects: Geometry, Calculus, or approved advanced math substitute, or the following science subjects: Biology II, Chemistry II, Physics<sub>1</sub>, or Physics II.

~~(xiv) Trigonometry will no longer be included in the core curriculum for students graduating after the 2004-2005 school year.~~

(ii) Except as otherwise provided by this Section, a student who graduates in the 2013-2014 school year through the 2016-2017 school year shall have successfully completed at least nineteen units of high school course work, and for such a student, the core curriculum shall be defined as follows:

(aa) English I, II, III, and IV (four units).

(bb) Algebra I (one unit) or Applied Algebra 1A and 1B (two units) and Algebra II (one unit).

(cc) Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, or comparable Advanced Mathematics (two units).

(dd) Biology (one unit).

(ee) Chemistry (one unit).

(ff) For a total of two units: Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physical Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, Physics, Physics II, or Physics for Technology (one unit) or Agriscience I and II (both for one unit).

(gg) American History (one unit).

(hh) World History, Western Civilization, World Geography, or History of Religion (two units).

(ii) Civics and Free Enterprise (one unit combined) or Civics (one unit, nonpublic).

(jj) Fine Arts Survey (one unit or substitute one unit of a performance course in music, dance, or theater, one unit of a visual art course, or one unit of a studio art course).

(kk) Foreign Language (two units in a single language).

(iii) Except as otherwise provided by this Section, a student who graduates in the 2017-2018 school year and thereafter shall have successfully completed at least nineteen units of high school course work. For the purposes of this Item, any Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course of a higher level than any course provided in this Item and any Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course that may be taken for college credit shall also fulfill the core curriculum requirements in the course's subject area. For such a student, the core curriculum shall be defined as follows:

(aa) For a total of four units:

(I) English I (one unit).

(II) English II (one unit).

(III) One unit from the following: English III, Advanced Placement English Language and Composition, or International Baccalaureate English III.

(IV) One unit from the following: English IV, Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition, or International Baccalaureate English IV.

(V) Dual enrollment for any credit in non-remedial college English Composition (one unit).

(bb) Algebra I (one unit), Geometry (one unit), and Algebra II (one unit).

Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III may be substituted for the Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II sequence.

(cc) Algebra III, Advanced Math-Functions and Statistics, Probability and Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Math-Precalculus, International Baccalaureate Math Methods I, Calculus, Advanced Placement Calculus AB, Advanced Placement Statistics, or dual enrollment for credit in non-remedial college mathematics (one unit).

(dd) Biology (one unit).

(ee) Chemistry (one unit).

(ff) For a total of two units:

(I) Earth Science (one unit).

(II) Physical Science (one unit).

(III) One unit from the following: Environmental Science, Advanced Placement Environmental Science, or International Baccalaureate Environmental Systems.

(IV) One unit from the following: Physics I, International Baccalaureate Physics I, or Advanced Placement Physics B.

(V) One unit from the following: Advanced Placement Biology, International Baccalaureate Biology, or Advanced Placement Chemistry.

(VI) Dual enrollment for credit in non-remedial wet-laboratory college science (one unit).

(gg) American History, Advanced Placement American History, or International Baccalaureate American History (one unit).

(hh) For a total of one unit: Government (one-half unit) and Economics, Advanced Placement Economics Macro, or Advanced Placement Economics Micro (one-half unit).

(ii) For a total of two units:

(I) One unit from the following: World History, Advanced Placement World History, or International Baccalaureate World History.

(II) One unit from the following: World Geography, Advanced Placement Human Geography, or International Baccalaureate Geography.

(III) One unit from the following: Western Civilization, European History, or Advanced Placement European History.

(IV) History of Religion (one unit).

(V) Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics (one unit).

(VI) International Baccalaureate Economics (one unit).

(VII) Dual enrollment for college credit in non-remedial college social science (one unit).

(jj) French, Spanish, German, any Advanced Placement language and culture, any International Baccalaureate language, or dual enrollment for college credit in non-remedial college language (two units in a single language).

(kk) Performance course in Music, Dance, or Theatre, Fine Arts Survey, Talented Art I, II, III, or IV, Talented Music I, II, III, or IV, Talented Theater Arts I, II, III, or IV, any Advanced Placement art course, any International Baccalaureate art course, or dual enrollment for credit in any non-remedial college level art course (one unit).

\* \* \*

(6) The administering agency shall not update any course name or establish any course equivalency for any course included in any definition of core curriculum provided in Subparagraph (1)(e) of this Subsection.

Section 2. R.S. 17:3048.1(C)(1)(e) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Carter

HB No. 509

**Abstract:** Relative to TOPS eligibility, provides a new high school core curriculum beginning with students graduating in 2017-18 school year; prohibits the TOPS administering agency from updating any course name or establishing any course equivalency for any course included in the definition of core curriculum.

Relative to the high school core curriculum that certain students must successfully complete to be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award pursuant to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS):

Present law provides that to be eligible for these awards, a student who graduates from a La. public or approved nonpublic high school, in addition to meeting other eligibility requirements, must successfully complete a specific minimum number of units of specified course work that constitutes a core curriculum, as follows:

- (1) Students graduating in the 2012-2013 school year: At least 17-½ units.
- (2) Students graduating in the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter: At least 19 units.

Proposed law:

- (1) Limits the applicability of core curriculum requirements that begin with 2013-14 graduates to students graduating through the 2016-17 school year.
- (2) Maintains a 19-unit requirement for students graduating in 2017-18 and thereafter but revises the course work that constitutes a core curriculum for such students.

Present law provides that the administering agency of present law relative to TOPS is the La. Student Financial Assistance Commission. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the administering agency to provide by rule guidelines and procedures by which it may update the course name and establish course equivalencies for any course included in the definition of core curriculum provided by present law and provides that such guidelines and procedures shall include the following requirements:

- (1) Any such course name change or equivalency establishment shall be done by agency rule.
- (2) Prior to issuing a notice of intent to consider any such rule, the administering agency shall consult with and seek written comments and recommendations of the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Bd. of Regents.

Proposed law repeals present law and instead prohibits the administering agency from updating any course name and establishing any course equivalency for any course included in any definition of core curriculum provided by present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(1)(e); Adds R.S. 17:3048.1(A)(6); Repeals R.S. 17:3048.1(C)(1)(e))